Longtime Camas resident to talk about city's history

Virginia Warren's presentation is set for March 4 at the Camas Hotel

By Dawn Feldhaus

Post-Record staff

A woman who has lived in Camas for more than 80 years will talk about the history of the downtown area during the First Friday festivities in March.

Virginia Warren, 85,

plans to take "verbal stroll" down main streets of Camas Friday, March 4, at 5 p.m., in the atrium of the Camas Hotel, 405 N.E. Fourth Ave. The presentation is free and open to the public. Table service

will be available for individuals who would like to purchase food or beverages.

Warren attended Central [elementary] School, Camas Junior High School and Camas High School. She graduated from CHS in 1944.

During high school, Warren was an usherette at the Liberty Theater.

She also worked at Economy Drugstore and the Camas paper mill.

"I have a few old pictures that I want to show of the JCPenney store, Farrells, the mill, Lupton's [restaurant and ice cream shop.] It was kind of a hangout for us kids downtown," Warren said. "There's lots of history."

After graduating from CHS, she and her sister Margaret were among the women who drove Army vehicles across the Oakland Bay Bridge to be repaired by mechanics in that area.

After the jeeps and trucks

were fixed, the women would take them back to the military ships to go overseas.

"It was quite a lot of fun for a young girl," Warren said. "The men were off to World War II, so the women took

the men's jobs."

After working in the San Francisco area, she graduated from beauty school in Portland. Warren became a beautician and worked at Max Mirror of Beauty, in Camas.

Her presentation is part of the Camas Hotel's celebration of its 100th anniversary this year. For more information, call 834-5722 or visit www.camashotel.com.

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